

**REMARKS**

Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 1-6, 10-14, and 23-33 will be pending in this application. Claim 22 stands withdrawn. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment does not introduce new matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132. Accordingly, entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

**1. Rejection of claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph**

The Official Action states that claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph for being indefinite. In particular, the Official Action states in relevant part that "...claim 18 lacks antecedent basis and is now broader than claim 1."

Applicants have canceled claim 18 without prejudice or disclaimer, rendering the basis of this rejection moot. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

**2. Provisional double patenting rejection of claims 1-6, 10-14, 18 and 23-32**

The Official Action states that claims 1-6, 10-14, 18 and 23-32 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-22 of copending U.S. Patent Application No. 11/597,373.

Regarding this provisional rejection of claims 1-6, 10-14, 18 and 23-32 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double

patenting, Applicants respectfully note that the present application was filed earlier than the '373 application. In view of the removal of the rejection of claim 18, addressed in section 1 above, the Examiner must now remove this rejection and allow the presently pending claims to proceed to grant.

**CONCLUSION**

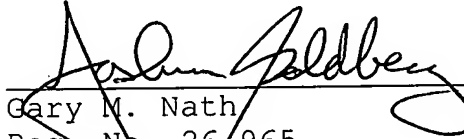
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all rejections and allow pending claims 1-6, 10-14, and 23-33. Favorable action with an early allowance of the claims pending in this application is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is welcomed to telephone the undersigned attorney if she has any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,  
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